Roll back of prices of Urea and Foodgrains

3283. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to roll back the prices of urea and foodgrains;

(b) if so, whether reconsideration is based on any pressure from some quarters;

(c) whether any final decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The Government is not considering any proposal to roll back administered prices of urea and foodgrains as this decision was warranted from the point of view of fiscal substantiability.

Newsitem captioned Rs. 60,000 crore gone as markets crash

3284. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item Rs. 60,000 cr. gone as markets crash which appeared in the Indian Express dated 5th April. 2000; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The news item was in the context of a fall of 361 points in BSE Sensex on 4th April, 2000. Price fluctuation on stock markets is a phenomenon which is influenced by multiple factors which include expectations of investors regarding performance of the corporate sector and the economy in general, perceptions of the investors about economic policies of the Government, developments in the international capital markets etc. The reported loss in market capitalisation due to such fluctuations is notional.